

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02590 291431Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 SCS-03 /018 W
-----003416 291440Z /44

O 291345Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4729

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FOR MOOSE FROM AMBASSADOR BRADFORD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (TEOFANI), CDES
SUBJECT: TEOFANI MURDER

1. DURING MORNING 29 JULY, J.J. ARMES AND ASSOCIATES ACCOMPANIED BY TWO EMBASSY OFFICERS AND EMBASSY INTERPRETER VISITED ALLEGED SCENE OF TEOFANI MURDER WITH JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION PROCURER OF THE REPUBLIC, PROCURER GENERAL AND POLICE OFFICIALS FOR REINACTMENT OF CRIME. BOTH DETAINEES WERE ALSO BROUGHT TO THE ALLEGED SCENE OF CRIME FOR THE REENACTMENT. MR. ARMES WAS ABLE TO ASK QUESTIONS OF BOTH DETAINEES DURING THE REENACTMENT.

2. LATER, MR. ARMES AND ASSOCIATES ACCOMPANIED BY SAME EMBASSY PERSONNEL, THE JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION, POLICE OFFICIALS AND THE PROCURER OF THE REPUBLIC WENT TO THE LATTER'S OFFICE TO INTERROGATE THE DETAINEES. THE LAWYER OF BOTH DETAINEES WAS THERE (CHAD HAS ONLY TWO PRACTICING LAWYERS TO OUR KNOWLEDGE AND THE OTHER IS REPORTEDLY IN FRANCE AT PRESENT). MR. ARMES AND HIS PRINCIPAL ASSOCIATE, MR. LAYTNER, WERE ABLE TO INTERROGATE THE MALE DETAINEE AT SOME LENGTH AND WERE ABLE TO BEGIN THEIR

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QUESTIONING OF THE FEMALE DETAINEE.

3. THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE WAS CONFUSED THE MAJORITY OF THE TIME WITH FREQUENT INTERRUPTIONS, AND SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE INTERROGATION, MEMBERS OF BOTH SIDES LOST THEIR TEMPER; BUT BY AND LARGE MR. ARMES WAS ABLE TO ASK HIS QUESTIONS. THE JUDGE OF

INSTRUCTION ADJOURNED THE QUESTIONING AT ABOUT 1220 HOURS AND PROMISED TO RECONVENE THE QUESTIONING AT 0900 HOURS ON MONDAY 1 AUGUST. AFTER SOME EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION, ALL PARTIES AGREED.

4. AT THAT POINT, BOTH THE PROCURER OF THE REPUBLIC AND THE JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION ASKED MR. ARMES FOR INFORMATION WHICH MR. ARMES CLAIMED TO HAVE DURING THE INTERROGATION WHICH COULD EITHER DISPROVE THE DETAINEES' STORIES, OR AT LEAST ADD TO THE JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE CASE. MR. ARMES FIRST SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO DO SO BUT ONLY AFTER HE HAD FINISHED HIS INTERROGATION OF THE DETAINEES. WHEN ASKED WHY NOT NOW, ARMES INSISTED THAT EMBASSY INTERPRETER CONVEY TO THE PROCURER AND THE JUDGE THAT IF THE DEFENSE ATTORNEY WERE ALLOWED TO HEAR HIS EVIDENCE, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE TRUTH BECAUSE THE ATTORNEY COULD PREPARE HIS DEFENSE BASED ON HIS EVIDENCE : UMABLY INSTRUCT THE DETAINEES ON HOW TO ANSWER ARMES' QUESTIONS).

5. AT THIS POINT, TEMPERS AGAIN FLARED BUT BOTH THE DEFENSE ATTRONEY AND THE PROCURER OF THE REPUBLIC INSISTED THAT ARMES ET AL BE LECTURED ON CHADIAN LAW (WHICH FOLLOWS FRENCH LAW). ARMES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSISTED THAT HE HAD ALREADY CHECKED WITH THE DEPARTMENT (BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS) AND HAD BEEN SUFFICIENTLY BRIEFED AND THAT THIS NOT NECESSARY. STILL, PROCURER AND DEFENSE LAWYER INSISTED ARMES UNDERSTAND CHADIAN LEGAL PROCEDURE IN ORDER THAT ARMES UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE DEFENSE LAWYER NOT PRIVY TO ALL JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION PROCEEDINGS, THE CASE WOULD BE THROWN OUT OF COURT.

6. AGAIN, AFTER A GREAT DEAL OF OUTSPOKEN DISCUSSION, EVERYONE AGREED THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER AND THE INTERROGATIONS WERE ADJOURNED UNTIL MONDAY.

7. DESPITE MR. ARMES CLAIMED EXPERTISE IN FRENCH LEGAL SYSTEM, HE MAKES COMMENTS WHICH ARE IN ERROR CONCERNING ITS EFFECTIVENESS. THESE ARE TAKEN AS INSULTING BY CHADIAN LEGAL AUTHORITIES MAKING COOPERATION DIFFICULT. AT ONE POINT, IN EXASPERATION, PROCURER DE JUSTICE GAVE ARMES A COPY OF CHADIAN CODE PENAL AND ASKED HIM TO STUDY SAME. DEFENSE

ATTORNEY HAS STATED THAT IF EVIDENCE IS WITHHELD
FROM HIM QUOTE IN SECRET UNQUOTE AS ARMES DEMANDS,
HE WILL MOVE FOR DISMISSAL OF CASE. WE HAVE BEEN
INFORMED THIS CAN BE DONE UNDER CHADIAN LAW.

8. ARMES AND ASSOCIATES MAKE ASIDES IN ENGLISH
WHICH ARE UNDERSTOOD BY CHADIANS AND ARE TAKEN AS
INSULTS, FURTHERING HOSTILITY.

9. UPON RETURNING TO EMBASSY MR. ARMES ASKED
TO SEE AMBASSADOR. AS LATTER WAS OCCUPIED,
HE WAS ASKED TO WAIT. HE LEFT ASKING AMBASSADOR
TO CALL HIM AT HOTEL. HAVE JUST RECEIVED HIS
ASSISTANT AND THEY HAVE ASKED ME TO COME TO HOTEL
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FOR SOME QUOTE VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION UNQUOTE.
CONDUCT OF INVESTIGATION IS DISREPUTABLE AT BEST,
BUT COOPERATION WILL BE CONTINUED. BRADFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NDJAME02590
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770272-0794
Format: TEL
From: NDJAMENA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977075/aaaaadmb.tel
Line Count: 139
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6ef7356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1837377
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEOFANI MURDER
TAGS: CASC, CDES, (TEOFANI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6ef7356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009